

Winter Energy Saving Tips

1. **Adjust your thermostat.** The Department of Energy recommends setting the temperature at 68 degrees when you are awake and turning it down (about 10 degrees) while you are away or asleep. Be sure to never lower the temperature below 55 degrees to prevent frozen pipes.
2. **Use the sun.** Open blinds to let sunlight in during the day to heat your home. At night, close your blinds to trap the heat inside.
3. **Cover up air leaks.** Use plastic film on windows if they are leaking. Use door draft stoppers to keep cold air out.
4. **Cook comfort food efficiently.** Bake in batches and freeze extras. Cook your favorite soup and chili recipes in crock pots. Slow cooked food tastes great and uses less energy.
5. **Celebrate the holidays with LED lights.** If you decorate with lights, purchase LED lights and keep them on timers.
6. **Service your furnace/boiler and change furnace filters regularly.** This will ensure your unit is operating safely and efficiently.
7. **Use space heaters safely and efficiently.** Only have space heaters on when you are in the room and keep items around them at a safe distance.
8. **Bundle Up.** Warm clothes, blankets, and socks are key in the winter. Rugs are another great way to help your home feel warmer.
9. **Inspect and clean your fireplace.** Make sure your fireplace is safe. Close fireplace dampers when you are not using it to prevent heat from escaping.
10. **Redirect ceiling fans.** Switch the rotation of your ceiling fans to clockwise, operate at a slow rate, and push warm air down.



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